



AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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Here and Abroad

People—Places—Events

FEMININE LAWMAKERS

There are 16 women in the present session of Congress. One of them, Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, is a senator. The remaining 15 are in the House of Representatives. The first woman was elected to Congress in 1917.

RECORD TRADE

Our country imported 2¾ billion dollars' worth of goods during the third quarter of last year. That was the highest total of foreign purchases in any such period of our history. Despite this record, Americans were still selling much more abroad than they were buying, as has been the case for many years.

MAGAZINE EXCHANGE

The Soviet Union has agreed to allow the U. S. Information Agency to circulate its Russian-language magazine *Amerika* in that nation. In return, the Soviet Embassy in Washington will be permitted to publish the *U.S.S.R. Information Bulletin*. Both these publications present their countries in a favorable light.

ANTARCTIC FREEZER

The Navy will bury 100 loaves of bread in the snow near the South Pole. One loaf will be dug up and examined each year for the next century. This experiment will test the possibility of storing surplus food in the area to meet future emergencies. Bacteria, which quickly spoil certain foods in warmer climates, are almost nonexistent in the frozen Antarctic.

GOOD FOR DUCKS

The Indian village of Maushynram was the wettest land area on our globe last year. During the first 9 months of 1955, 535 inches of rain fell on this spot. In July alone, the village had 198 inches.

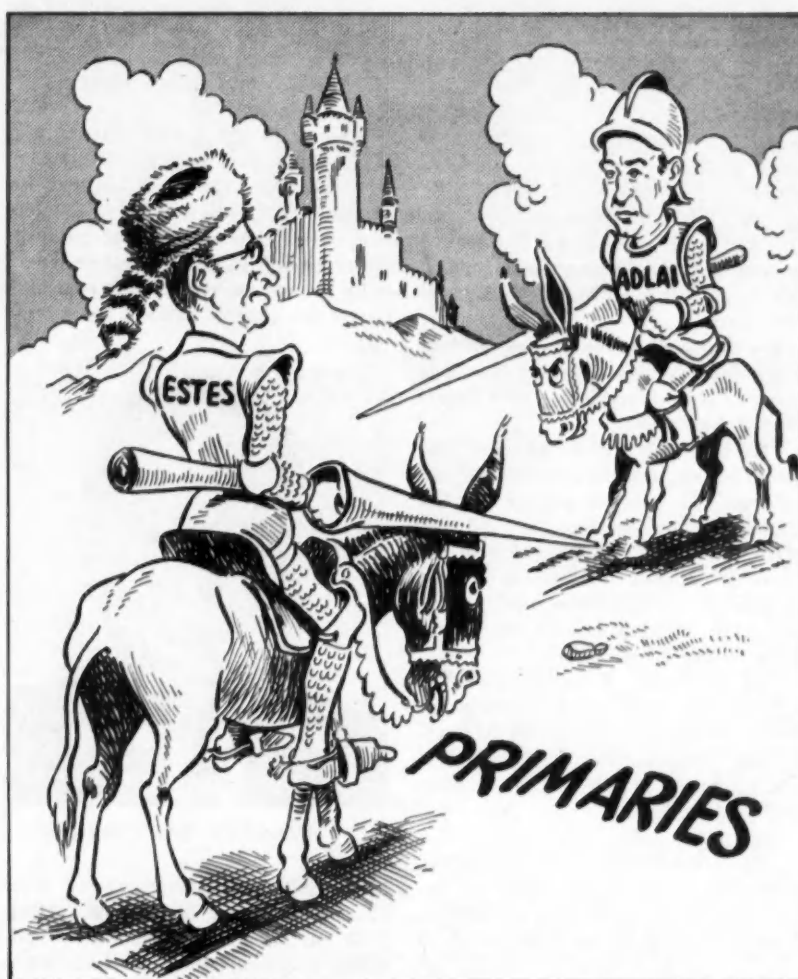
By way of comparison, Washington, D. C., has an average annual rainfall of 41 inches.

TOURIST ATTRACTION

The Gray Line, largest sight-seeing company in Washington, D. C., reports that for the fourth consecutive year Mt. Vernon attracted more than a million tourists in 1955. George Washington's historic home can be reached by driving 12 miles from the nation's capital along the scenic Potomac River.

SECURITY STUDY

A new Commission on Government Security is meeting in Washington, D. C., to study security measures in the federal government. The 12-member group will examine the government's loyalty procedures to learn if any rights of federal employees have been violated. A report on their findings will be made to Congress by the end of this year.



JOUSTING RIVALS. This is the way one cartoonist portrays the contest between two leading contenders for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Who Will Be Named?

While GOP Awaits Eisenhower's Decision, Democratic Contenders Start Race for Presidential Nomination

UNTIL President Eisenhower announces his political plans, it won't be known whether the Republicans are to have a struggle over the selection of their 1956 Presidential candidate. Eisenhower will receive the nomination if he wants it, but there are several other GOP leaders waiting to seek it if he decides against running. In case a struggle over the choice of a GOP standard-bearer does occur, this paper will discuss the possible candidates in detail.

Among Democrats, meanwhile, a lively contest for the Presidential nomination is already under way. Adlai Stevenson and Senator Estes Kefauver have announced themselves as full-fledged contenders. The supporters of New York's Governor Averell Harriman are expected to fight vigorously for his nomination, and Ohio's Governor Frank Lausche is also a possible Democratic candidate.

Quite a few other prominent Democrats, mainly governors and senators, are hoping to receive the Presidential nomination in case there is a deadlock among the top contenders.

In the remainder of this article we shall discuss the backgrounds and views of Stevenson, Kefauver, Harri-

man, and Lausche, and shall point out certain other Democrats who might have a chance to win the nomination.

Stevenson

Background: Adlai Stevenson, the Democrats' 1952 Presidential candidate, will be 56 years old next month. Though born in California, he has spent much of his life in Illinois—as a newspaperman, lawyer, and eventually governor.

Stevenson worked on an agricultural program for the federal government in the early 1930's, and he held a number of U. S. posts during World War II. He was at the 1945 San Francisco conference where the United Nations Charter was drawn up.

In 1948, Stevenson was elected governor of Illinois—a position which he held until 1953. It was near the end of his term as governor that he ran for the Presidency.

Since 1953, Stevenson has spent his time practicing law, traveling, making speeches, and writing.

Views: Stevenson has called for "moderation" in the forthcoming Presidential campaign. Many people

(Concluded on page 2)

Japan Plays Big Role in Far East

Will Island Nation Continue To Be Close Partner of U. S. During 1956?

WILL Japan continue to be a close and reliable ally of the United States in the far Pacific? This is one of the big foreign-policy questions confronting U. S. leaders as 1956 gets under way.

For 7 years after World War II, Japan was under the occupation rule of U. S. forces. In 1952, she again became independent. We retained the right to keep military bases in Japan, but we no longer have a voice in running the government.

Since that country regained its independence, there has been increasing opposition to our military bases in Japan by certain officials. The Japanese government has also been urging closer trade relations with Red China and the Soviet Union.

Some American observers wonder if, as time goes on, Japan may not veer away from close ties with the United States. The Japanese, it is feared, may decide that, if they adopt a "neutral" policy, they will be able to do considerable business with both the communist and non-communist nations, thus increasing their foreign trade.

Japan's future course may possibly be indicated by what takes place this month in London, where Russian and Japanese officials are scheduled to meet again to try to conclude a peace treaty. Ten years after the end of World War II, these two foes in the global conflict have still not reached agreement on their differences.

Soviet leaders have, for a long time, been trying to pull Japan away from the free world. They appeared to be making progress toward this goal until a short time ago. After developments of the last month at the United Nations, however, Russia's relations with Japan seem to have suffered at least a temporary setback.

(Continued on page 6)



JAPANESE PREMIER, Ichiro Hatoyama

Democrats

(Concluded from page 1)

interpret this to mean that he wouldn't favor an all-out, hard-hitting attack against the Republicans and the present administration. Others point out that he freely criticizes the Eisenhower administration whenever he disagrees with it.

As to some of his own proposals: Stevenson stresses the importance of cooperation between America and her overseas friends and allies. He favors continued efforts to reach a fool-proof international agreement on the control of atomic weapons and other armament. He wants a sizable program of federal aid for the nation's schools. He thinks Uncle Sam should "support" the prices of major farm products at a higher level than the government now guarantees.

Pro and con: Would Stevenson make the best Democratic candidate for President? His supporters say:

"Yes. Stevenson demonstrated in 1952, even though he lost the election, that he can wage a good campaign. This year he would have a far better chance to win, because he is much better known.

"Stevenson is a clear thinker and a brilliant speaker. The policies that he favors are wise. He can be counted upon to advocate them sensibly, and at the same time to criticize his opponents without bitterness.

"If elected, he would be a good President—one in whom America and her allies could have great confidence."

Stevenson's rivals and opponents within the Democratic camp reply as follows:

"A majority of the nation's voters rejected Stevenson in 1952. This year we should offer them someone else.

"It is true that Stevenson is witty and highly entertaining as a speaker. However, these characteristics wouldn't necessarily make him an outstanding President.

"Finally, there is the possibility that Stevenson would be too mild-mannered in his campaigning. We need a candidate who—in the words of former President Truman—will 'go after the opposition hammer and tongs.'"

Kefauver

Background: Estes Kefauver, who is now 52 years old, started out as a lawyer in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He served briefly as State Commissioner of Finance and Taxation in 1939, and entered the U. S. House of Representatives later that same year. He was elected to the Senate in 1948, and re-elected in 1954. During his Senate career, Kefauver has received



ADLAI STEVENSON

much publicity for conducting investigations on crime.

In 1952, the Tennessee Senator made a strong bid for the Democratic Presidential nomination. He won quite a few state Presidential primaries, but at the national convention he was defeated by Adlai Stevenson.

Views: Kefauver believes that the United States should work in close cooperation with the countries of western Europe, and he feels that our country should welcome a big volume of foreign trade. In the Senate, he has favored large defense outlays.

He urges "swift and generous federal assistance" to the nation's schools. He favors relatively high government supports for farm prices. In general, he believes that the federal government should have an important role in handling our country's natural resources.

Pro and con: Kefauver's supporters give the following reasons why they think he should receive the 1956 Presidential nomination:

"He is popular with the rank and file of voters, and is a vigorous campaigner. He worked harder for the Democratic nomination than did any other candidate in 1952, and won impressive victories in a number of state primaries. If he had been nominated as party standard-bearer, he might have beaten Eisenhower.

"In the Senate, Kefauver has taken a forthright stand on practically every major issue. He would be a hard-hitting Presidential candidate. If elected, he would give our nation effective leadership."

Kefauver's opponents reply:

"In contrast with his leading rivals, Kefauver has had practically no experience as an administrative official. Nearly all his political career has been



ESTES KEFAUVER

as a legislator. A governor or former governor is better prepared for the Presidency.

"In the Senate, Kefauver developed crime investigating as his specialty because he thought it would bring him a great deal of publicity. His crime probes have probably done considerable good, but they don't prove that he can handle the complex problems which a President must meet."

Harriman

Background: W. Averell Harriman was born 64 years ago. A member of a wealthy family, he became active in railway and other business interests at an early age.

President Franklin Roosevelt made frequent use of Harriman's services during the 1930's, and later appointed him director of the Lend-Lease Program—through which America sent materials and weapons to her World

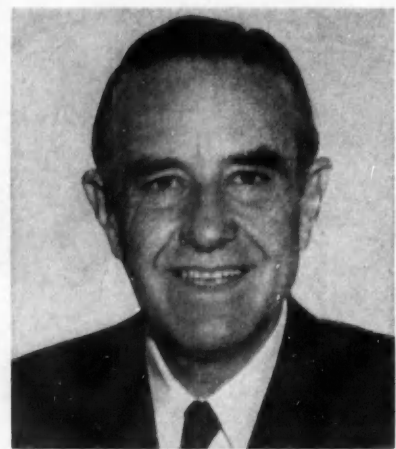
War II allies. Harriman has been our country's ambassador to Britain and to Russia. Also, he served for a while as Secretary of Commerce.

He was director of the U. S. foreign aid program from 1951 to 1953, and was elected governor of New York in 1954.

Harriman sought the Democratic Presidential nomination four years ago, but says he doesn't intend to launch an all-out fight for that honor in 1956. Apparently, though, many of his supporters plan a vigorous effort to nominate him.

Views: To the nation as a whole, Harriman is best known for his work in connection with foreign policy. He thinks it is highly important that we help our friends and allies to build up their strength against communism.

In recent speeches, Harriman has lashed out sharply against the Eisen-



AVERELL HARRIMAN

hower administration, accusing it of favoritism toward big business. Along with various other Democratic candidates, he recommends relatively high-level price supports for farm products.

Pro and con: Would Harriman be the Democrats' best choice? His supporters say:

"Yes. Our President—whoever he may be—must face vital problems of foreign policy. Averell Harriman is far more experienced in foreign relations than is any other possible Democratic candidate.

"As a U. S. official, and more recently as governor of New York, he has gained wide experience in administrative work. In short, he is the best qualified candidate that the Democrats could offer."

People who oppose Harriman reply:

"He has played a major role in our foreign-aid spending programs, and many voters might dislike a nominee who is so closely associated with a policy that has put such a heavy burden on the U. S. taxpayer.

"Harriman maintains that he is not an 'active candidate' for the Democratic nomination. The party should choose a candidate who is working openly and definitely for this honor."

Lausche

Background: Frank J. Lausche, age 60, has been a professional baseball player, lawyer, and public official. His first governmental post was as a judge, in 1932. He served as mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, for several years in the early 1940's, and was elected governor of Ohio in 1944.

A defeat at the polls in 1946 put Lausche out of office, but he regained the Ohio governorship in the 1948 election and has kept it ever since.

Lausche indicates willingness to be



FRANK LAUSCHE

a Democratic candidate for President. At the same time, however, he is seeking the Ohio Democratic nomination for a U. S. Senate post.

Views: In recent years, Lausche's political career has been connected almost entirely with state problems, and therefore his views on national questions are not widely known. However, he calls himself an "independent" Democrat, and frequently disagrees with other leaders in the party. He admires Republican President Eisenhower.

As a judge in Ohio, he fought hard against gambling and racketeering. His activities as governor have included the promotion of slum clearance and of superhighway construction.

Nationally, his chief supporters are among the Democrats who feel that our major problems should—so far as possible—be handled through state rather than federal action.

Pro and con: Lausche's supporters argue: "He would make a good Democratic candidate and a good President. His record proves him to be an outstanding vote-getter. In Ohio, he has strong support among Republicans as well as Democrats. In a national election, Lausche undoubtedly would receive large numbers of Republican votes, and therefore he would have an excellent chance to win."

Lausche's opponents reply: "He isn't well enough known to the country as a whole. Since he hasn't been involved in national politics, people don't know precisely where he stands on major national issues. His friendship toward the Republicans could be more of a hindrance than a help. It might keep him from getting enthusiastic support among members of his own party."

Other Names

As we have already noted, there are other prominent Democrats who might receive the Presidential nomination if a deadlock occurs among the top contenders. These include Governor Robert Meyner of New Jersey; Governor G. Mennen Williams of Michigan; former Governor William Preston Lane, Jr., of Maryland; and Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri.

Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas may also be a Presidential possibility, if it appears that he has fully recovered from the heart attack which he suffered last July. Senator John Sparkman of Alabama, the Democrats' Vice Presidential contender in 1952, could be a surprise candidate for Chief Executive this year. In any case, he is sure to be mentioned—along with numerous other Democratic leaders—as a prospect for the Vice Presidential nomination.

—By TOM MYER

Science News

A HUGE atlas of the sky is being published by the National Geographic Society and the Palomar Observatory in California. The atlas will comprise over 1,700 maps of the stars and planets made from photographs of the sky. It will be used by astronomers as a guide.

When it is completed, the atlas will contain photographs of three fourths of the world's total visible sky. Some of the space regions photographed in detail have never been seen before.

Each section of the sky atlas is 14 inches square. If pieced together, the whole map would be the size of a tennis court.

Work on the atlas began in 1949 and is scheduled to wind up late in 1956. About 100 copies have been ordered. The price per copy is \$2,000.

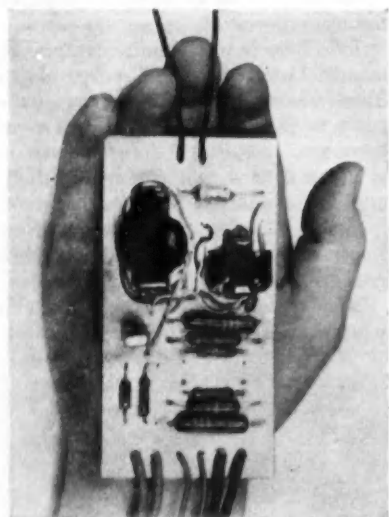
★

Cows and sheep never sleep. At least they never completely relax and lose consciousness. This is the conclusion of a British scientist after years of study.

Dr. C. C. Balch has observed cows and sheep throughout 24-hour periods, and has also checked the sleeping habits of other animals at zoos. He recently reported as follows:

Cows and sheep never completely lie down and relax unless they are sick. They seldom close their eyes for more than a few seconds.

Most cattle seen at night have their eyes open. In the brief moments during which their eyes are closed, the cows are alert to slight noises, as shown by movement of their ears.



SMALLER than the hand. It's the Army Signal Corps' new "repeater." Placed in a communications line at 6-mile intervals, the repeaters will make it possible for soldiers to phone over a distance of 30 miles with their portable equipment.

★

The discovery of the world's largest cave was recently announced in Kentucky. Explorers have found over 30 miles of passageways and underground rooms. When it is fully mapped, the cave may be almost twice that large. Until now, the 24-mile long Holloch Cave in Switzerland was thought to be the largest in the world.

Part of the huge system of connecting tunnels and caverns in the Kentucky cave was discovered in 1917. It was not until recently, though, that a large new section was found.

—By VICTOR BLOCK



STEVE ALLEN (as Benny) and Donna Reed star in *The Benny Goodman Story*. A biographical film about the clarinetist, it has lots of good popular music.

Radio-TV-Movies

JAZZ fans will flock to the theaters in the next few weeks to see "The Benny Goodman Story." This technicolor movie is a biography of the man who used his clarinet to make jazz an authentic and respected musical form.

The movie traces Goodman's life from his early childhood, stressing his ambition to give Dixieland jazz a place of respect in the musical world. It follows his career from the days of traveling between towns to his ultimate success—his famous Carnegie Hall concert in 1936. Since then, Goodman has appeared in numerous other concerts, classical as well as jazz.

The part of Benny Goodman is played by Steve Allen. He is assisted by several of today's top popular musicians, including Harry James and Gene Krupa, both of whom formerly played in Goodman's band.

★

Cities do not have a monopoly on television. The Census Bureau reports that over one third of the nation's farms have television sets. New Jersey, with television sets on about 8

out of 10 farms, leads the nation in this respect.

★

A CBS radio show is devoted to discovering new, young singers. The program, "Young Ideas," presents talented youths found across the nation. CBS stations in many towns and cities hold contests, and the winners travel to New York to star on the show.

"Young Ideas" is heard on Saturday evenings. See your local papers for the time and station.

★

"America's oldest unrehearsed discussion program" is the distinction claimed by "The American Forum." This program was first heard on a radio network in 1928, and it has been televised since 1949. Each week congressmen and other figures in public life discuss and debate current issues and topics.

"The American Forum" is seen and heard on the NBC television and radio networks every Sunday.

—By VICTOR BLOCK

Our Readers Say—

I think Russia's proposal to give aid to countries of the Middle East is a bluff. Her economy is not strong enough for such an extensive program as she offers. Russia hopes to force us to adopt a larger foreign aid program that may weaken our economy.

MARTIN KRELL,
Los Angeles, California

★

We must meet Russia's new, increased foreign aid program. Only by giving assistance to needy countries can we help raise their living standards. Communism holds forth false but appealing promises to people who are hungry and ill-clothed.

PATRICIA SCHNELIBY,
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

★

It is a good idea for our congressmen to travel abroad. It will bring about better relations between the United States and the countries of Europe and Asia that they visit.

ANN NICOLS,
Richmond, Virginia

★

I am glad that the Army is training soldiers in citizenship. Men who are called upon to defend their country should know what their country stands for. Our democratic ideals should be taught to all Americans.

HILLEVI RUUMET,
Brooklyn, New York

It is necessary for us to have bases overseas. In case this country is attacked, our bombers in other parts of the world can help to defend us. Even more important is the hope that our overseas bases will discourage an enemy country from attacking the United States for fear that we will retaliate.

BARBARA RAYMOND,
Shelton, Washington

★

The lack of engineers and scientists is a national problem. The government should give scholarships to qualified high school students who wish to continue their education. This would be a good investment for our country as well as an aid to the students.

JOHN HISEL,
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

★

We need more classrooms and teachers, but why must we look to the government for help? The people of each state and locality should improve their own schools. They know what their schools need better than the government.

WALTER FOX,
Chicago, Illinois

★

[Will readers who send letters to this column please print their name legibly? We have been unable to use a number of good letters because the signatures of the writers were not readable.]

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 7, column 3.

1. If a government *coerces* (kô-ûrs'z) someone, it (a) aids him (b) deceives him (c) honors him (d) forces him to obey.

2. The federal agency *disseminates* (dî-sêm'i-nâts) the information. (a) spreads (b) forgets (c) believes (d) suppresses.

3. A *fortnight* (fort'night) is a period of (a) four nights (b) four days (c) two weeks (d) two nights.

4. *Abysmal* (â-bîz'mall) poverty is (a) temporary (b) deep or extreme (c) comparatively slight (d) widespread.

5. If an official order is *countermanded* (kown'ter-mând'ed), it is (a) revoked (b) repeated (c) disobeyed (d) obeyed.

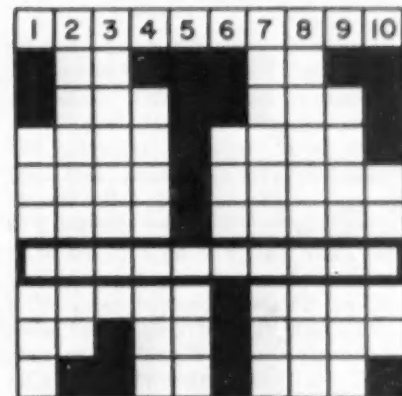
6. Citizens should understand the *terminus* (ter'mi-nûs) of our foreign policy. (a) main defect (b) history (c) plan (d) goal.

7. President Eisenhower's disarmament plan calls for a careful *scrutiny* (scrôo'tî-nî) of the nations involved. (a) weapons quota (b) examination (c) questioning (d) pledge.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of a geographical area which is well known to everyone in the United States.

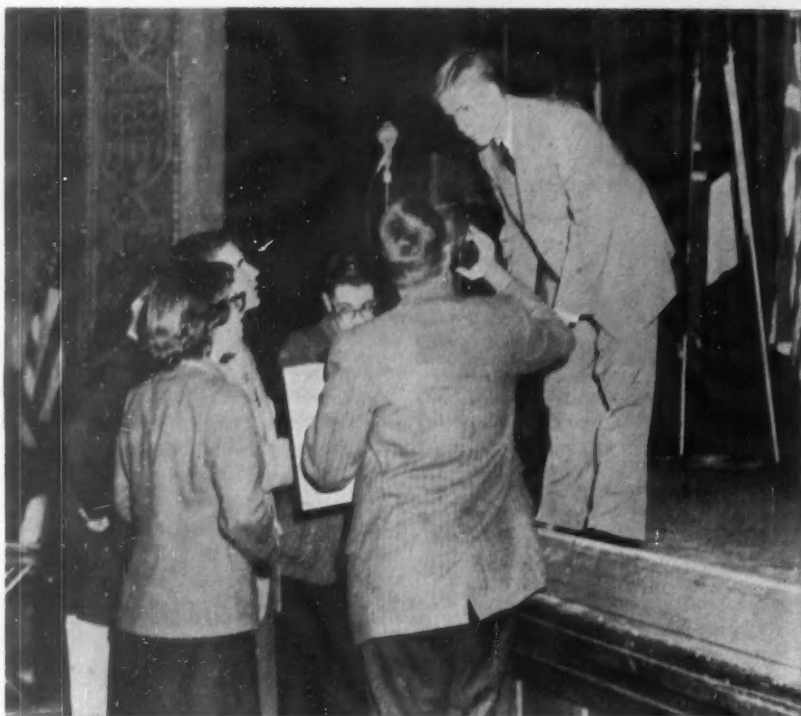
1. Capital of New Hampshire.
2. Premier of Japan.
3. Senator Estes Kefauver, Democratic Presidential hopeful, favors federal aid to _____.
4. Former U. S. Ambassador to Russia and Britain who is considered to be a contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination.
5. Most Democrats favor federal government action to guarantee higher prices for _____ products.
6. Governor Lausche of _____ is a Democratic Presidential contestant.
7. Governor Robert Meyner of _____ may be a dark-horse candidate at the Democratic convention.
8. Once governor of Illinois, he is a Democratic Presidential candidate.
9. Michigan governor who may enter the Democratic race.
10. The Japanese people must _____ in order to live.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Primaries. VERTICAL: 1. Japan; 2. Iraq; 3. Saudi; 4. Salem; 5. Lebanon; 6. Outer; 7. Spain; 8. bosses; 9. August.

The Story of the Week



HIGH SCHOOL student Philip Stichter confers with colleagues in a "Model Council of Europe," recently held at Toledo, Ohio.

French Assembly Meets

On Thursday, January 19, France's newly elected National Assembly, or lawmaking body, is scheduled to meet. It will try to choose one of its members as premier. This won't be easy, for the new Assembly is sharply divided into rival political groups, just as was the old legislature.

There are more than a dozen political parties represented in the Assembly. None of them commands a majority of the body's 627 seats. Hence, several parties have to agree on a premier before he can be chosen.

Even when a premier is selected, he probably won't stay in office for long. Whenever a majority of Assembly members votes against him on an important issue, he and his cabinet will be forced to resign. More than 20 French premiers have come and gone in this way since World War II.

In the elections held earlier this month, the communists increased their strength from about 100 to 150 Assembly seats. Red gains were made chiefly as a result of France's complicated election laws. The percentage of Frenchmen who voted communist in the 1956 contest was actually a bit smaller than it was in the previous election of 1951. On both occasions, though, it amounted to about a fourth of the voters.

Another extremist group, led by shopkeeper Pierre Poujade, won about 50 seats in the legislature. Thus far, the Poujadists haven't stated their views on the threat of communism and other issues facing France. But their leader encourages his followers to commit acts of violence if necessary to get their way, and he once led businessmen in a movement not to pay taxes. Poujade appears to favor a strong-arm type of government modeled after that of Mussolini's fascists who ruled Italy before World War II.

Hence, France's middle-of-the-road parties, which hope to govern the country, can expect plenty of trouble from extremist groups. To make matters worse, the moderate parties are divided into rival camps. One group is

led by former Premier Pierre Mendes-France. Another is headed by outgoing Premier Edgar Faure.

Together, these 2 groups have some 340 seats in the Assembly. But unless they can work closely together, it will be difficult for the Assembly to agree on a premier, and it will be even more difficult for the man who is selected to stay in power for any length of time (see page 7 story on France).

Press Conferences

President Eisenhower is now resuming his conferences with the press. These question-and-answer sessions with reporters, representing papers the world over, were temporarily discontinued for a time following the Chief Executive's heart attack last September.

The Presidential press conferences usually last for about 30 minutes, and are generally held once a week. Because of the large number of questions the Chief Executive is called upon to answer, the half-hour sessions with reporters can be extremely strenuous. So Eisenhower's doctors, in permitting him to resume the press meetings, must feel that his health is sound.

Model Youth Parley

A number of schools across the nation are considering plans to stage get-togethers similar to the one conducted last month by 12 high schools in and around Toledo, Ohio. The Toledo meeting was a model parley of the Council of Europe.

The Council is a body made up of Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, and West Germany. Its purpose is to encourage the free countries of Europe to work together as a team in economic, social, and political matters.

The model Council of Europe in Toledo was staged by members of the Junior Council on World Affairs—a nation-wide group that encourages

young people to take an interest in global problems. It is associated with a similar organization for adults named the Council on World Affairs.

In their model Council of Europe, Toledo boys and girls acted as representatives of the various countries which belong to the European body. The students dealt with some of the many problems which the Council of Europe actually faces today.

This parley was the first of its kind ever staged in the United States. In addition to students of the Toledo area, young representatives from 68 American cities which have Junior Council on World Affairs groups were invited to observe the get-together.

Death at the Wheel

Not long ago, an 18-year-old youth from Washington, D. C., smashed into a tree while driving at a speed of 100 miles an hour. Two of his passengers were killed. He and 3 other youths were seriously injured. The car was sliced in half, a total wreck.

The driver had a long list of traffic violations charged against him before the tragic accident occurred. Here is part of his record: September 19, 1953—going 70 miles an hour in a 25-mile-an-hour zone. September 24, 1953—driving at an unreasonable speed and failing to observe other traffic rules. October 27, 1953—following another vehicle too closely for safety. April 17, 1954—driving 50 miles an hour in a 25-mile zone.

Are laws strict enough when drivers with records such as this are permitted to operate cars on our streets and highways? It is the responsibility of citizens in every community and state to decide this question.

What do you think about your laws regarding traffic violators? Write and tell us your views on this issue.

Premier Hatoyama

Premier Ichiro Hatoyama is an old-timer in Japanese politics. He held his first public office in 1908, when he was named a member of the Tokyo legisla-

tive assembly. Later, he held important posts in his country's national government.

His backing of Japanese Premier Tojo in World War II, plus his writings in praise of European dictators in the late 1930's, almost ruined Hatoyama's political career after the war. American occupation forces forbade him to hold public office in post-war Japanese governments.

Later, the restrictions against Hatoyama were lifted. In December 1954, he became "caretaker" Premier after former Premier Shigeru Yoshida lost the support of a majority of the members in Japan's Diet or parliament. Hatoyama promised to hold national elections within 3 months after taking over the reins of government.

Japan had never before engaged in such an election. Hatoyama was the first Premier to campaign over radio and television in a vote-getting drive in the Far East land. In addition, he toured the country by car and gave speeches wherever he could. This was a difficult chore for Hatoyama, who is now 73, for earlier he had suffered a stroke which left him partially paralyzed.

Hatoyama won a smashing victory at the polls. The policies that his government has followed since then are discussed in a main article which begins on page 1.

More Money for Arms

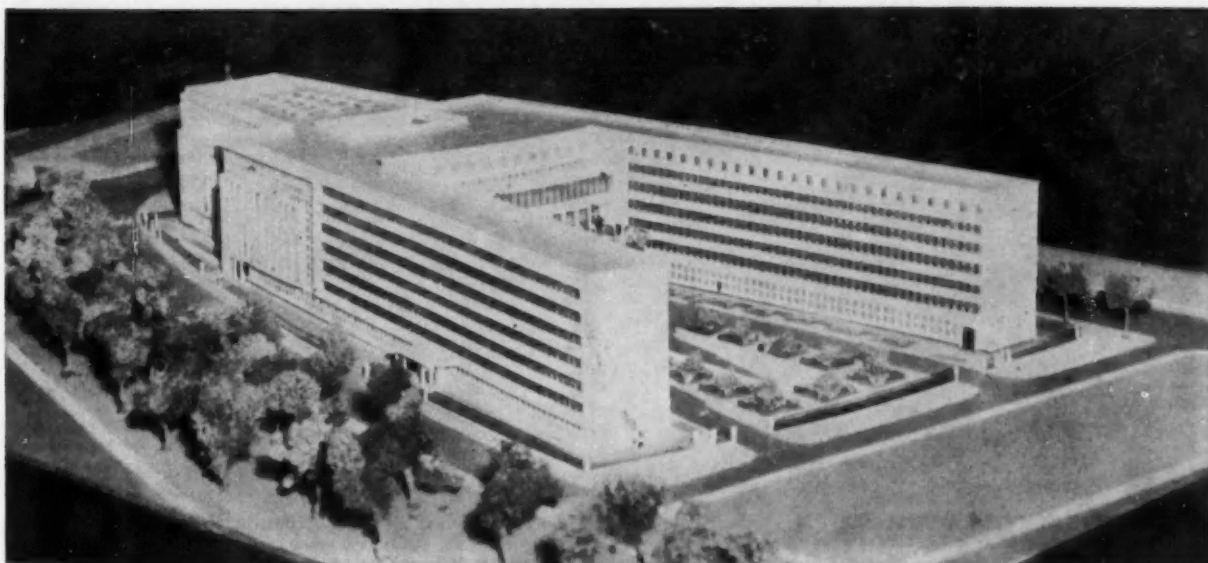
Despite talk of disarmament (see note elsewhere on these pages), both Russia and the United States plan to spend large sums of money on arms in the coming year.

The Eisenhower administration is asking Congress to set aside about 35½ billion dollars for defense purposes in the fiscal (bookkeeping) year beginning next July 1—an increase of a billion dollars over current military spending. A big slice of the proposed increase in defense spending will be for making and developing guided missiles.

Meanwhile, Russia claims that she will spend about 25 billion dollars on



EMPEROR-AUTHOR Hirohito of Japan, 54, shows his family a book which he wrote about biology—his hobby. With him (left to right) are Empress Nagako, 52; Crown Prince Akihito, 22; Prince Yoshi, 20; and Princess Suga, 16.



MODEL of new headquarters for NATO—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—which is to be built in Paris

arms this year—a little less than the Reds say they spent during the past 12 months. But, western officials, after taking a close look at the Soviet budget for 1956, say that Moscow's total military expenditures will be substantially higher this year than last.

The Soviets are known to be spending large sums of money on atomic weapons and guided missiles. These and other expenditures aren't listed under the Red military budget.

In a Nutshell

Congress has a new member this year. He is Michigan's Democratic Representative John Dingell, who once served on Capitol Hill as a page boy. Dingell won his House seat in a special election held last month to fill the vacancy left by the death of his father, the late Representative John Dingell, Sr.

West Germany is sending some members of its newly organized army to the United States for training purposes. The first group of trainees arrived here earlier this month. They will study at U. S. Army schools scattered over the country.

American ambassadors to Egypt, India, and other lands in Asia and the Middle East have been called to Washington, D. C., for talks with Secretary of State Dulles and his assistants.

Our overseas representatives and State Department officials are reviewing U. S. policies in Asia and the Middle East. They hope to work out plans for checking the spread of Soviet influence in that troubled part of the world.

India is getting 100 locomotives and a large number of railroad cars from Uncle Sam. We are providing India with the rail equipment free of cost as part of our financial aid program to that Asian country.

The U. S. Air Force is adopting a program to keep arms factories operating in case of an atomic attack. Under the Air Force plan, certain factories scattered over the nation will keep machines and supplies on hand to turn out airplanes and weapons on short notice.

State of the Union

The nation's lawmakers have already opened debate on some proposals made by President Eisenhower in his State of the Union message to Congress earlier this month. Among other things, the Chief Executive asked the legislators to:

1. Make long-range plans for continuing our programs of sending technical and military aid to our overseas friends.
2. Renew tax laws which are due to expire this year.

3. Set up a government-sponsored insurance plan to help victims of floods and disasters.

4. Provide a total of 25 billion dollars in federal money over the next 10 years to build better highways.

5. Approve a program for building 35,000 housing units for low-income families each year for the next 2 years.

6. Admit Hawaii as our 49th state, and help Alaska achieve statehood later. Also extend home-rule and balloting rights to the voteless citizens of the District of Columbia.

7. Make certain changes in our social security and health programs to provide additional benefits to persons who are in need.

8. Increase postal rates to help put the Post Office Department on a self-supporting basis.

We shall discuss these issues further as they are dealt with by Congress.

Is It Hopeless?

"Sitting in on disarmament talks with Russia is like listening to a broken phonograph record. The Reds repeat the same proposals over and over again." That is what an American official said after attending a number of Soviet-western disarmament talks last year.

Now, President Eisenhower's disarmament chief, Harold Stassen, is working on new arms reduction plans. These will be suggested to Moscow next month when Soviet and western leaders will once again meet at the United Nations in an effort to reach an agreement on disarmament.

Meanwhile, Russia's communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev denounced our government's arms-inspection plan. This American proposal calls for inspection by Russia and the United States of each other's military forces as a first step toward arms reductions. The Soviet leader said Moscow will not agree to any plan which would permit outsiders to view Russian military installations.

Hence, the outlook for Soviet-western agreement on arms reductions in the forthcoming talks is dim, indeed. Nevertheless, our leaders still hope that something may come of the meetings with Russian officials.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's major articles will deal with (1) the U. S. farm situation, and (2) a comparison of the political and economic systems of Russia and the United States.

SPORTS

MANY men in public life are enthusiastic sports followers and participants. President Eisenhower, for example, likes to play golf, and during his school days was a good baseball and football player. Further proof of the sports ability of men in public life may be found in the records of the 4 possible candidates for the Democratic Presidential nomination, discussed in our page 1 article.

Governor Averell Harriman of New York not only was a varsity oarsman at Yale, but coached the crew in his senior year. He was one of America's best polo players 25 years ago.

Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee was a linesman on the football team at the University of Tennessee. He also threw the weights as a member of the track team.

Governor Frank Lausche of Ohio was an outstanding baseball player in his younger days. A third baseman, he played professional ball for several years on minor-league teams.

Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic nominee in 1952, has long found relaxation in tennis. He plays a skillful and vigorous game that many a younger player cannot match.

★

In Arlington, Virginia, is a pretty high school senior who can outshoot most members of the armed forces. She is 17-year-old Kathleen Walsh, one of the best pistol shots among American women.

Kathy became interested in marksmanship several years ago after watching her father, a Marine officer, perform on the firing range. She started with a rifle at the age of 12, and took up pistol marksmanship 2 years later.

Blue-eyed Kathy has competed 3 times in the national pistol championships at Camp Perry, Ohio. Last year she set a new women's record in rapid-fire competition requiring 20 shots in 16 seconds. Her keen eye and steady nerves have won her an array of medals and trophies.

—By HOWARD SWEET



KATHLEEN WALSH, 17, is one of the best pistol shots among American women.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Employment Clerk: Chief, there's an applicant here who says he used to make a living by sticking his right arm in a lion's mouth.

Chief: How interesting. What's his name?

Clerk: Lefty.

★

Visiting Professor: I want to congratulate your daughter on her essay, "The Influence of Science on the Principles of Government."

Father: Thanks. Now I hope she will begin to study the influence of the vacuum cleaner on the carpet.

★

Wife: I'm reading a mystery book.
Husband: Why, that looks like our household budget.

Wife: It is.

★

"I want some pillow cases."

"Yes, sir. What size?"

"I don't know, but I wear a size 7 hat."

★

Skipper: This boat makes 15 knots an hour.

Sweet young thing: Who unties them?

Butcher: I can't give you any more credit. Your bill is already bigger than it should be.

Customer: I know that. Just make it out for what it should be and I'll pay it.



"Well, son, you're right. This old report card of mine you found in the attic isn't any better than yours. I guess the only fair thing is to give you what my father gave me."

Our Ally, Japan

(Continued from page 1)

In December, the Soviet Union blocked membership in the United Nations for Japan. The Russians said they were doing so because the western nations would not agree to the admission of communist Outer Mongolia to the world organization. Many people think, though, that the Soviet Union was really more interested in creating a future bargaining point for the admission of Red China to the UN. In other words, she may offer to let Japan in later on if the free world admits Red China.

Whatever the reason may have been, Russia's action was deeply resented in Japan. In view of the rebuff, it is believed and hoped that Japan will not be in a mood to make big concessions to the Russians in the London talks.

U. S. Position

Nonetheless, U. S. officials will be watching the talks closely. We have a keen interest in the course followed by Japan. Her position just off the mainland of Asia, her high degree of industrialization, and her advanced standards of education make her a key nation in the far Pacific. We know that Japan, so long as she is allied with the western nations, will be a strong force for stability in Asia.

We are also concerned that the aid we have given Japan since the end of World War II shall not have been in vain. Since 1945, more than 4½ billion dollars of U. S. funds have gone to Japan.

Actually there does not seem to be much danger at this time that the Japanese will be pulled into the Red orbit. Japan's 60,000 Reds have little influence today.

What some U. S. officials do fear, though, is that Japan may slide toward a neutral foreign policy, somewhat resembling that of India and Indonesia. Like these countries, many Japanese want to have "normal" relations with the communist nations, particularly Red China. Behind this attitude is a powerful urge to increase trade.

A few basic facts and figures about Japan show why trade is so important



LEADING SECTION OF TOKYO, Japanese capital. Over 8 million people live in the city and suburbs.

to this island nation. In an area about the size of Montana are crowded 89 million people—more than half the population of the United States. Whereas the United States has about 55 people per square mile, Japan has more than 600.

To make matters worse, the Pacific country is mountainous, and only 17 per cent of the land can be cultivated. The nation's farms, upon which more than half the people live, average less than 3 acres in size.

With so little good farm land, Japan cannot grow enough food for her rising population. Even though two or more crops are raised on the same piece of ground each year, the nation must buy about 20 per cent of its food abroad.

Not only does Japan have to depend on trade to get sufficient food, but she also has to obtain from abroad many raw materials for her factories. Cloth-making is a major industry, but all raw cotton and most wool must come from other lands.

Japan has to import about 80 per cent of her iron ore, 90 per cent of her petroleum, and such items as rubber, tin, and nickel. Even though the country has large supplies of coal, it is not the kind needed for use in iron and steel production. Several million tons of coking coal must be purchased abroad each year.

Despite a lack of many raw materials, Japan is the greatest industrial nation of the Far East. She makes ships, heavy machinery, automobiles, chemicals, steel, textiles, toys, and cameras. The sale of these products abroad pays for the needed purchases of food and raw materials.

Before World War II, Japan did business all around the world, but most of her trade was with Asian nations. She sold more than 60 per cent of her goods to neighboring countries. She obtained roughly half of the food and raw materials she needed from Asia—especially from the Chinese province of Manchuria and other areas she conquered.

As a result of the war, Japan lost her territories. She lost almost all her trade, too. This was partly because she had almost no goods to sell after her defeat, partly because many old customers had no money to spend, and finally because her war enemies did not want to buy from her.

For a time after World War II, Japan did some business with Red China and Russia. This business was halted in 1950 after the Reds attacked South Korea. Since the Korean War ended, there has been some revival of trade with the mainland of Asia, but it is far below what it was previously.

One of Japan's main aims is to ex-

pand her trade, for it is upon trade that the nation's welfare depends. While living standards are higher than in most other lands in the Far East, they are low as compared to the standards of industrialized lands in the west. The average Japanese worker earns less than \$50 a month. Only a thriving trade can push living standards upward.

Many Japanese think that Red China and the Soviet Union offer good markets for Japan's products. Western observers feel that these hopes are not based on fact. They point out that China's trade pattern has changed greatly since the Reds came into power. Today most of China's trade is with her communist ally, Russia. Many feel that Japan has little chance of taking over her old trading position in China so long as the Reds retain control there.

Southeastern Asia

Some Japanese businessmen feel that southeastern Asia may offer the best opportunity for increased trade. They have been making a big sales drive in Indonesia, Ceylon, India, Burma, Thailand, and other lands of southeast Asia. Indonesia is already second to the United States among Japan's customers.

The past year has seen several encouraging developments in Japan. In many respects, 1955 was the most prosperous year that the Asian nation has had since World War II. Sales to the U. S. shot upward. Among the products we buy from Japan are cotton cloth, tuna fish, plywood, toys, cameras, and Christmas tree ornaments.

Another encouraging development in Japan during 1955 was the emergence of a political setup much like ours, with two main parties. In November, the Liberal and Democratic parties combined. These two conservative groups, now united in the Lib-



JAPAN, population about 89 million, consists of 4 main islands and a number of small ones. The Asian country is about the size of Montana.

eral-Democratic Party, run the government today. Holding power in both houses of the Diet (parliament), the Liberal-Democrats are generally following a course friendly to the United States, though the U. S. is sometimes criticized on certain matters.

The opposition is furnished by the Socialist Party. The latter also is made up of two groups which merged last fall. The Socialists favor a neutral policy in foreign affairs, and are critical of Japan's close ties with the United States. They are also anti-communist.

There are several minor parties, but they are so small that they have little influence. For all practical purposes, Japan has a two-party system.

Other Problems

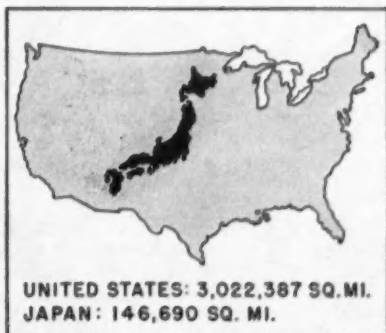
A number of big problems besides trade still demand solution. One is that of rearmament. After World War II, the Japanese, under our guidance, outlawed war, and proclaimed that they would never again build up their military power.

With the rise of the communists in China, though, we encouraged Japan to protect herself by building up a strong military force. By the end of 1956 Japan hopes to have 200,000 men in her armed forces.

There exists considerable opposition to rearmament. Many Japanese feel their country would be better off without armed forces. If this sentiment spreads further, we fear that Japan might not be able to stand up against a communist assault from the mainland of Asia. Since we are pledged to go to Japan's help, the feeling against rearmament disturbs our leaders.

Disturbing, too, is the opposition on the part of some Japanese to U. S. military bases in their country. We consider that these bases—which include airfields only a few hundred miles from the Soviet Union—are a vital link in our defense system.

The Socialists are the group furnishing the main opposition to U. S. bases in Japan. Fortunately the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party does not share the Socialists' views. We hope that all Japanese will reflect on the fact that these bases are even more important for Japan's defense than for ours. We have agreed to withdraw our bases when Japan is sufficiently strong to defend herself.



Drawn for American Observer by Johnson

Japan's relations with Russia are, of course, one of her most troublesome problems. The main issues to be discussed at London are the future of the Kurile Islands, which Russia took from Japan after World War II, and the return of several thousand Japanese war prisoners still in Soviet camps.

U. S. officials hope that Japan will make real progress in coming months toward solving her problems, and will reject a policy of neutrality.

—By HOWARD SWEET



WINTER VACATIONERS in Nice, France's popular Mediterranean Sea resort, enjoy warm, sunny skies. Shown here is the famous English Promenade—so named in honor of the British, who for years have been Nice's leading vacation customers.

A Frenchman Speaks

In Letter to Maryland Girl, Visitor from France Replies to U. S. Critics of His Country

LOUIS Cabrol, a Frenchman now in the United States studying American trade unions, thinks most Americans have the wrong impression of his country. Without taking a stand on whether his views are right or wrong, we feel that the defense he makes for his country should be presented to our readers.

We wish to thank Betty Murray of Derwood, Maryland, for sending us the translation of a letter which he wrote to her.

"You asked me about the differences between France and America. There are some, but not so many, perhaps, as one might think. I took advantage of your question in order to tell you what I have concluded about the two peoples. The American is not up to date on anything which has happened in France. In general, he has a very false idea about my country.

Two Groups

"I have come to divide Americans into two groups. First is the average American, who is acquainted only with Paris. To him, Paris is a city where people seek only pleasure. He knows nothing of the real France. He thinks that it is a lost country, without a government, without stability.

"Then, there is the other American, a bit more restrained. As far as he is concerned, France is a great country which has done a lot in the past for arts and letters and civilization. However, with the little information he has, he thinks that France is a country which is dying and which, in 10 years, one will visit just as one visits ancient Rome. France, according to this viewpoint, will be a ruined country.

"It is to such thinking that I must give an answer and explanation. No, France is not and will not be a ruined country. So far as her government is concerned, it deserves thanks for the fact that France can extricate herself

from wars without going down, dying.

"In 1945, France was half destroyed and completely bled. But in 10 years, she has constructed a number of hydroelectric dams, three of which are the largest in Europe. In the case of one, Donzere-Mondragon, France turned away the Rhone River for 20 miles, and in 5 years, she has removed more earth than our fathers did in constructing the Suez Canal in 20 years.

Other Accomplishments

"France has reconstructed the greatest port in Europe. (Marseille was entirely destroyed.) She has rebuilt Le Havre, Caen, Cherbourg, and Brest. In the month of May 1955, two of my nation's locomotives each broke the world's record for railway speed, showing that we have the best railroad in the world.

"In the month of June 1955, the Super Mystere IV, a jet plane entirely French-made, was the first plane in the world to break the sound barrier in horizontal flight.

"In October 1955, we put on the market a new automobile, Citian, a car so marvelous that, without even having tried it, a British company bought its license for England, and thousands of people ordered it without ever having seen it.

"In 1945, France was quite flattened by war. At present, she is almost on the level of America, and all that in spite of 7 years of war in Indochina; in spite of Dien Bien Phu, where 10,000 French soldiers died. That is why France has the right now to world respect and admiration. France has again become a great country, and that is what many Americans have not noticed."

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (d) forces him to obey; 2. (a) spreads; 3. (c) two weeks; 4. (b) deep or extreme; 5. (a) revoked; 6. (d) goal; 7. (b) examination.

Know Your Nation

By Clay Coss

MANY of you no doubt listen regularly to the popular CBS radio-television program, "The \$64,000 Question." Those of you who do probably saw and heard Steven Frohlich participate in a quiz on American history.

Mr. Frohlich was asked 10 questions, some of them containing several parts. Where was George Washington inaugurated? Who was one member of his Cabinet? Which was the last state to enter the Union? What President became Chief Justice of the United States after leaving the White House? Who was the American general in our Revolution who conspired to lose West Point?

As the questions continued, each one worth much more than the previous one, they became increasingly difficult. For whom was the vessel *Bon-Homme Richard* named? What military man from France, from Prussia, and from Poland, came here to help Washington in the Revolution? What two American families, other than the Roosevelts, produced two Presidents each, and how were the Presidents of each family related?

Which territories did we buy from France in 1803; from Spain in 1819; from Mexico in 1853; from Russia in 1867; from Denmark in 1916? In what year was each of the last seven amendments to the Constitution adopted, and what did each one involve?

Steven Frohlich, who was born in Czechoslovakia and who did not become an American citizen until two years ago, had a perfect record in this quiz and won \$32,000 as a result of his knowledge. It is true that, in order to gain citizenship, he had to study U. S. history, but he went far beyond the required reading in order to find out everything he could about his adopted country—its accomplishments, ideals, ambitions, and leaders.

Too many native Americans, unfortunately, take for granted the events and leaders—past and present—that have made our nation as great as it is today. They do not take the time to acquire the knowledge about their country which useful, patriotic citizens should possess.

Steven Frohlich did obtain such information despite the many other difficulties involved in adapting himself to a new country. His example offers both a challenge and an inspiration to citizens who have neglected to inform themselves about their own native land—a land which has provided them with unexcelled freedom, justice, and opportunity.



Clay Coss

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A Career for Tomorrow - - In Advertising

MERCHANTS, manufacturers, and business people of all kinds depend upon advertisements to sell their goods. They need trained persons who can tell the buying public about their products.

Your duties, if you decide on advertising as a career, will depend upon the particular branch of work you choose. There are many groups of specialists in this field. Three of the leading ones are the *copy writers*, the *artists*, and the *layout people*.

Copy writers, as the name suggests, prepare the written matter that is used in an advertisement. Sometimes the copy is no more than a word on a billboard. But it may also be a lengthy commercial for the radio, a brief paragraph for a newspaper ad, or a booklet. Whatever form it takes, the copy must attract and hold the reader's interest. It must encourage people to buy a particular product in preference to others.

Artists draw the illustrations for advertisements, and layout people plan the arrangement of the different parts of the ad. Both groups must have artistic ability and, like the copy writers, they should be well acquainted with the products they are advertising, and know psychology.

Your training should include a broad education in cultural subjects—English, history, art, foreign languages, and the sciences. A general knowledge of how the business world operates and experience as a salesman or sales-

woman are helpful. Hence, part-time sales work while still in high school can be a steppingstone to an advertising career.

Next, you can either go to college and take courses in advertising, or you can learn the work while on the job. In either case, you will probably have to start out with a fairly routine job, and work your way up to a respon-



SALESMAN showing a proposed advertisement to one of his customers

sible place in advertising. As a rule, persons with a college degree advance more rapidly than do those without a higher education.

A knowledge of typing or stenography can be of great help to you when starting out in advertising. Agencies in this field often employ inexperienced persons only if they have these office skills. Little by little, new employees are then given an opportu-

nity to do work which is more directly connected with advertising.

Job opportunities aren't too plentiful. Competition for the better positions in this field is very keen, and only persons with outstanding abilities reach the top in advertising. So you had better be fairly certain that you have the essential talents before taking up this line of work.

Your salary, as a beginner, is likely to range from \$35 to \$60 a week. Experienced persons earn from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year. A few of the top people in the field have very high incomes.

Advantages and disadvantages will depend largely upon your abilities as well as likes and dislikes. The work in advertising is stimulating and rewarding. But men and women in it are under constant pressure to produce new ideas in the shortest possible time. Deadlines must be met. Finished copy must be in a form that pleases everybody—the public, the boss, and the firm whose product is being advertised.

All in all, the pressure, the competition, and the hustle are challenging to some people. They make nervous wrecks of others. Try to determine what they would do to you before you consider going into advertising.

Further information can be secured from the Advertising Federation of America, 330 West 42nd Street, New York 18, N. Y.

—By ANTON BERLE

News Quiz

Democratic Candidates

1. Tell briefly about the background of Adlai Stevenson, and give arguments for and against his becoming the 1956 Democratic Presidential candidate.
2. What experience has Estes Kefauver had in government and politics? Give pro and con arguments on his qualifications to become the Democratic standard-bearer.
3. Briefly trace Averell Harriman's career in government. What do supporters and opponents say about him as a possible Presidential candidate?
4. What governmental posts has Frank Lausche held? Discuss pro and con his qualifications to become the Democrats' nominee.
5. Name at least three other possible Democratic Presidential candidates.

Discussion

1. Among the possible Democratic standard-bearers this year, whom do you prefer? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Who would be your second choice, and why?

Japan Today

1. How has our relationship with Japan changed since 1951?
2. What recent action by the Soviet Union aroused resentment in Japan?
3. Why are we so concerned that Japan remain a close ally of ours?
4. Tell why trade is so important to Japan.
5. What leads many Japanese to want "normal" relations with Russia and Red China?
6. List some of the products which Japan sells to the United States.
7. Describe the political setup in Japan.
8. What differing views are held in that country concerning both rearmament and U. S. bases?

Discussion

1. What lands do you think offer Japan the best opportunity to expand her trade? Why?
2. Do you or do you not believe that Japan could have "normal" relations with the big communist lands and still be an effective defense partner of the United States? Explain.

Miscellaneous

1. Why is France likely to have trouble in organizing a new government? Who are the Poujadists?
2. Briefly describe the meeting held by students in and around Toledo, Ohio.
3. Who is Ichiro Hatoyama?
4. Do you or don't you feel that your traffic laws prevent dangerous drivers from operating cars? Explain.
5. Why is the outlook dim for Soviet-western agreement on disarmament?
6. Tell about some of the legislative proposals sent to Congress by President Eisenhower.
7. What is assumed to be the state of President Eisenhower's health now that his press conferences have been resumed?
8. For what reason have several U. S. Ambassadors to Asian lands been called to Washington?
9. Name the country that has just begun to send military men to study at U. S. Army schools.

Pronunciations

- Akihito—ā-kē-hē-tō
 Faure—fōr
 Hirohito—hē-rō-hē-tō
 Ichiro Hatoyama—ē-chē-rō hā-tō-yā-mā
 Mendes-France—mēn'dēs-frāns'
 Nagako—nā-gā-kō
 Nikita Khrushchev—nyī-kē'tuh krōosh-chawf
 Poujade—pōō-zhād
 Suga—sōō-gā
 Yoshi—yō-shī

Historical Background - - America and Japan

UNIL about a century ago, Japan was a "forbidden land," having few contacts with the outside world. Her rulers were suspicious of foreigners, and tried for a long time to avoid having anything at all to do with them. Japanese ports were almost completely closed to foreign ships.

Then, in the summer of 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry took 4 American steamships into a Japanese harbor, causing great excitement among the people there. Perry sent a message to the Emperor asking him to open up certain Japanese ports so that our vessels could feel free to use them for refueling and trading purposes. The American officer said he would return the next year for an answer.

In 1854, Perry went back with 10 ships. The Japanese, fearing attack, decided to make a treaty along the lines which Perry asked.

During the years after this event, American trade with Japan grew rapidly, and the two countries became good friends. The Far East nation, meanwhile, became the most highly industrialized land in the area.

In 1905, Japan won a military victory over Russia. That year, President Theodore Roosevelt was asked to help arrange for a peace between Japan and Russia. Under the peace treaty, signed at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Japan obtained rail and port facilities which Russia had controlled in the Chinese province of Manchuria. Japan also gained some other Far East areas formerly held by Russia.

After the Portsmouth Treaty was signed, Japan showed her friendship

for America by supporting our efforts to keep other nations from expanding their holdings in China. Around this time, too, the city of Tokyo sent a gift of flowering Japanese cherry trees to our nation's capital.

During World War I, though, our relations with Japan became strained when that country took advantage of Europe's troubles to gobble up Chinese territory. Our efforts to halt these expansionist moves angered Japan.

Nevertheless, there was a temporary return to better Japanese-American relations in the 1920's. President Warren Harding invited Japan, Britain, France, and other nations which had interests in the Far East to a conference in Washington, D. C. The countries attending the parley agreed to limit their naval strength, and they promised not to wage wars of conquest in the Pacific.

In the early 1930's, warlike leaders again got the upper hand in Japan, and that country began its military conquest of the large and rich Chinese province of Manchuria. We asked Japan to live up to her promise not

to invade her neighbors, but the Far Eastern nation ignored our pleas.

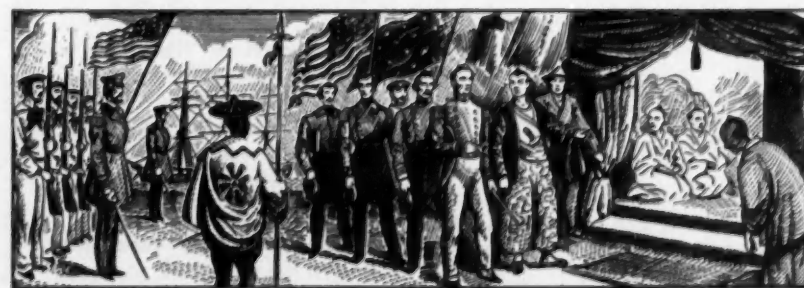
In 1937, Japan launched a large-scale drive to conquer China. Though we condemned Japan's actions in China, we continued to do everything possible to prevent an open conflict with the Japanese.

Then, on December 7, 1941, Japan struck without warning. Her attack on our military bases in Hawaii and elsewhere in the Pacific brought us into World War II, which continued until September of 1945.

After the war, we and our allies occupied Japan for a time under the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur. During the period of occupation, which ended after a peace treaty was signed in September 1951, the Japanese accepted many American ideas, including democracy.

Today, Japan is one of our defense partners in the Pacific, and we have friendly ties with her. New problems, though, threaten once again to strain relations between the two countries (see page 1 story).

—By ANTON BERLE



COMMODORE PERRY opened Japan for trade with western nations in 1853-1854. The drawing gives some idea of the ceremony which marked that event.